

**SEC. 2. Duties—biennial report.** The commission shall give advice and counsel to all free libraries and to all public school libraries in the state, and to all communities which may propose to establish them, as to the best means of establishing and administering such libraries, the selection of books, cataloguing, and other details of library management. The commission may also send its members to aid in organizing new libraries or in improving those already established, and co-operate with the trustees of the state library in the development of the traveling library system. The commission shall make a biennial report to the governor, 1,000 copies of which shall be published as other official reports are published.

**SEC. 3. Reports from libraries.** The commission shall each year obtain from all free public libraries and all public school libraries reports showing the condition, growth, development and manner of conducting said libraries, and shall obtain reports from other libraries in the state at their discretion, and shall furnish annually to the secretary of state such information for publication in the Iowa official register as may be deemed of public interest.

**SEC. 4. Secretary—office.** Said commission shall employ a secretary not of its own number, who shall serve at the will of the commission, and for such compensation and under such conditions as it shall determine. It shall be the duty of said secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of the commission, to keep accurate accounts of its financial transactions, and to act under the direction of the commission in organizing new libraries and improving those already established, and in general to perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the commission. In addition to his salary he shall be allowed his necessary traveling expenses while absent from his office in the service of the commission, the same to be certified and paid in the same manner as other expenses incurred by the commission. Said commission shall have its office at the office of the state librarian.

**SEC. 5. Appropriation—how drawn.** No member of the commission shall ever receive any compensation for services as a member, but the traveling expenses of the members in attending meetings of the commission or in visiting or establishing libraries, and other incidental and necessary expenses connected with the work of the commission, shall be paid, including compensation and expenses of the secretary mentioned in section four of this act, provided that the whole amount of said expenses, including secretary's salary, shall not exceed the sum of two thousand dollars in any one year. All bills incurred by the commission or by its members under this law shall be certified by the chairman and secretary of the commission to the state auditor who shall issue warrants therefor upon the state treasury, and there is hereby annually appropriated from any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of two thousand dollars to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

Approved March 20, 1900.

## CHAPTER 117.

### RIGHTS OF ALIENS.

H. F. 157.

AN ACT granting the right to corporations organized under the laws of a foreign country, and corporations organized under the laws of this country, one-half of the stock of which is owned and controlled by non-resident aliens, to hold and dispose of real property, and to legalize certain contracts and conveyances of such corporations. [Amendatory of chapter 1, title XIV, of the code, relating to the rights of aliens.]

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

**SECTION 1. Real property.** That all corporations organized under the laws of any foreign country, and corporations organized under the laws of any state of the United States, one-half of whose stock is owned and

controlled by non-resident aliens, shall have the right to own, hold, and dispose of any real property owned or held by any such corporations on the 4th day of July, 1888, or any real property acquired by any such corporations under the provisions of section six (6) of chapter eighty-five (85) of the laws of the Twenty-second General Assembly, or section twenty-eight hundred and ninety (2890) of the code. Provided, however, that any such corporation shall sell or dispose of any such property now owned by it within ten years from the taking effect of this act, and in default of such sale or disposition the provisions of sections twenty-eight hundred and ninety-one (2891), twenty-eight hundred and ninety-two (2892) and twenty-eight hundred and ninety-three (2893) of the code shall be applied thereto.

SEC. 2. **Bona fide contract.** A *bona fide* contract for the sale of any such lands owned by any such corporation shall be held and considered as a sale within the provisions of the preceding section, and a good and valid deed of conveyance may be made by such corporation at any time upon the fulfillment of such contract by the purchaser of any such lands.

SEC. 3. **Sales, contracts, deeds, and conveyances legalized.** All sales, contracts, deeds, or conveyances of lands owned by any such corporation on the fourth day of July, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight (1888), or acquired by any such corporation under the provisions of section six (6) of chapter eighty-five (85) of the laws of the Twenty-second General Assembly, or section twenty-eight hundred and ninety (2890) of the code, bearing date on or after the fourth day of July, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight (1888), are hereby legalized and rendered of full force and effect, according to their terms, in so far as their validity or the validity of the titles conveyed thereby may be affected by chapter eighty five (85) of the laws of the Twenty-second General Assembly, or any amendments thereto, or by chapter one (1), title fourteen (XIV) of the code.

SEC. 4. **In effect.** This act, being deemed of immediate importance, shall take effect from and after its publication in the Iowa State Register and Des Moines Leader, newspapers published in the city of Des Moines, Iowa.

Approved March 14, 1900.

I hereby certify that the foregoing act was published in the Iowa State Register and the Des Moines Leader March 16, 1900.

G. L. DOBSON,  
Secretary of State.

## CHAPTER 118.

### RELATIVE TO NOTARIAL SEALS OF NONRESIDENT NOTARIES PUBLIC.

#### S. F. 4.

AN ACT making notarial seals of nonresident notaries public *prima facie* evidence that the words thereon engraved conform to the requirements of the law of the place where the certificate purports to have been made. [Amendatory of chapter 6, title XIV, of the code relating to the conveyance of real estate.]

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

SECTION 1. **Notarial seals of nonresidents.** That the notarial seal which purports to have been affixed to any instrument in writing, by any notary public residing elsewhere than in the state of Iowa, shall be *prima facie* evidence that the words thereon engraved conform to the requirements of the law of the place where such certificate purports to have been made.

Approved February 10, 1900.